

## **John Mellencamp**

### **"The Real Life"**

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Suzanne divorced her husband  
She got the keys to the car and the home  
But her friends were really his friends  
No one stops by to see her much anymore

So one night she goes back down to the old haunts  
That once upon a time were her own  
She didn't know nobody out there no more  
And the whole experience just made her feel so old,  
she says

I want to live the real life  
I want to live my life close to the bone  
Just because I'm middle-aged that don't mean  
I want to sit around my house and watch TV  
I want the real life, I want to live the real life

Jackson, Jackson, was a good kid  
He had four years of college and a Bachelor's Degree  
Started workin' when he was 21  
Got fed up and quit when he was 43

He said, "My whole life, I've done what I'm supposed to  
do  
Now I'd like to maybe do something for myself  
And just as soon as I figure out what that is  
You can bet your life, I'm gonna give it hell with

I want to live the real life  
I want to live my life close to the bone  
Just because I'm middle-aged that don't mean  
I want to sit around my house and watch TV  
I want the real life, I want to live the real life

I guess it don't matter how old you are  
Or how old one lives to be  
I guess it boils down to what we did with our lives  
And how we deal with our own destinies

But something happens when you reach a certain age  
Particularly to those ones that are young at heart  
It's a lonely proposition when you realize

That there's less days in front of the horse  
Than riding in the back of this cart, I say

I want to live the real life  
I want to live my life close to the bone  
Just because I'm middle-aged that don't mean  
I want to sit around my house and watch TV  
I want the real life, I want to live the real life

I want to live the real life  
I want to live my life close to the bone  
I want to live the real life  
I won't sit around my house and watch TV  
I want the real life, I want to live the real life, I want the  
real life

I want to live the real life  
I want to live my life close to the bone  
I want to live the real life  
I want to live my life close to the bone

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